LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6695 NOTE PREPARED: Dec 21, 2006

BILL NUMBER: HB 1164 BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Gasoline Price Changes.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Cochran

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State

X DEDICATED FEDERAL

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill provides that it is a deceptive act for a gasoline dealer to change the per gallon price of gasoline more than one time a day.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The Attorney General may bring an action to enjoin a deceptive act. However, it is unlikely that adding changing the per gallon price of gasoline more than one time a day as a deceptive act will increase expenditures incurred by the Attorney General, unless the violation is widespread. The fund affected is the state General Fund.

Explanation of State Revenues: Civil penalties that may be assessed for deceptive acts range from \$5,000 to \$15,000 per violation, depending upon the particular case. The fund affected is the state General Fund.

Background Information: The following can be recovered by individuals who are victims of deceptive acts. A person relying upon an uncured or incurable deceptive act may bring an action for the damages actually suffered as a consumer as a result of the deceptive act or \$500, whichever is greater. The court may increase damages for a willful deceptive act in an amount that does not exceed the greater of three times the actual damages of the consumer suffering the loss, or \$1,000. Attorney fees may be awarded as well.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Attorney General.

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Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: James Sperlik, 317-232-9866.

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